

SAFETY ALERT



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZX-SA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



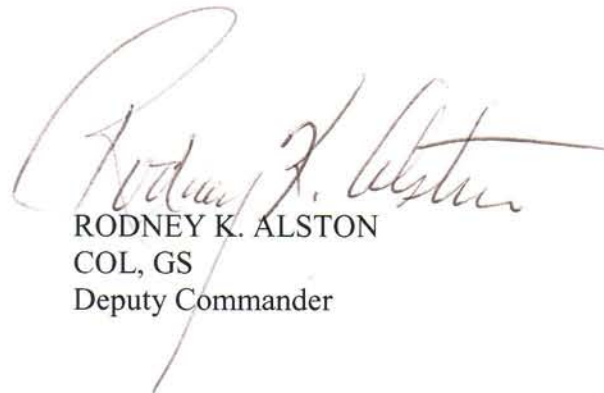
MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Prevention of House Fires -- Safety Alert 05-04

1. Fort Polk recently experienced several residential fires. Fortunately there were no fatalities, although two firemen were injured.
2. Our community can learn from the causes of these fires and prevent such incidents from occurring. In one case, a warm charcoal grill was improperly stored in a plastic storage shed. Another fire was caused by faulty electrical lighting on a Christmas tree. Finally, one fire was caused by knocking over a lighted candle.
3. There are several practical steps that can prevent fires. First, turn off holiday lights NLT 2200. Ensure free burning candles and incense are in suitable holders. Keep decorations away from open flame. Unplug heat-producing electrical appliances when not in use. Finally, test all smoke detectors weekly.
4. The holiday season increases the risk of fires. Practice fire prevention by using non-combustible ornaments and decorations. Use only UL approved lighting sets that are in good condition. Do not leave live Christmas trees in the home unattended for more than ten days. Do not daisy-chain surge protectors or overload extension cords. If the cord is warm after 30 minutes of use, it is overloaded. After holiday parties, check for smoldering cigarettes. Lastly, ensure candles are secure and out of reach of children.
5. Enjoy a safe holiday season.

**ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF TO ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON
BULLETIN BOARDS!**

FOR THE COMMANDER:


RODNEY K. ALSTON
COL, GS
Deputy Commander

DISTRIBUTION:
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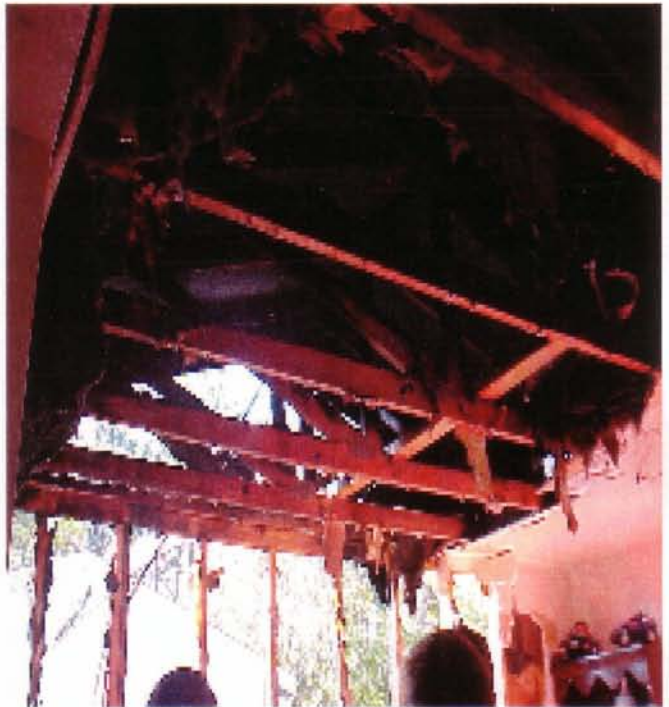
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SUBJECT: House Fires -- Safety Alert 05-04 (Photos of Damage)



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